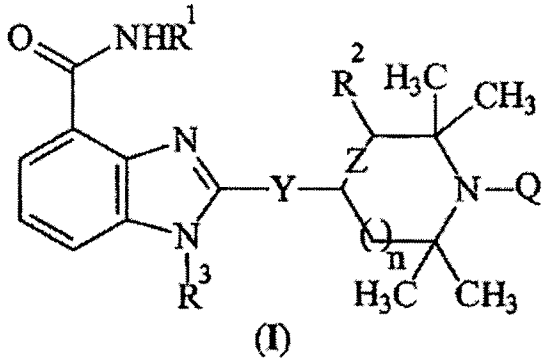
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A compound of the formula



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof, wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, or $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxy;

R^2 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, carboxyl, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, aryl, or hetero-aryl;

R^3 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, aryl-methylene, or aryl;

Y is a valency bond, a straight or branched chain $C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, a carbonyl-amino-$C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, or a $-S-(CH_2)_m-$ group;

n represents zero or the integer 1;

m represents the integer 1, 2, or 3;

Q represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, or the oxygen radical ($O^{\cdot}$), or together with the N atom of the adjacent ring forms a +N=O (oxoimmonium) group;

Z represents a single or double bond; and

wherein any or all alkene groups may be spaced by an arylene group.

15. (Previously Presented) The compound of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof according to claim 14, wherein

one or more of the aryl substituents are phenyl;

the hetero-aryl substituent is piperidine, pyrrole, or pyrrolidine; and/or one or more of the arylene groups are 6 or 12 membered arylene.

16. (Previously Presented) The compound of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof according to claim 14, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

4-(4-carbamoyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl)-1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-pyrrolidine 3-carboxylic acid methyl ester radical;

4-(4-carbamoyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl)- 2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-pyrrolidine-3-carboxylic acid methyl ester;

2-(4-bromo-l-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4-bromo-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-4-phenyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H* pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4-phenyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1,2,2,5,5-pentamethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-acetyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-methoxy-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(dibenzofuran-4-yl)-1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(dibenzofuran-4-yl)-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

(1-hydroxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-l,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-l,2,3, 6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[3-methoxy-4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[3-methoxy-4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(5-oxyl-4,4,6,6-tetramethyl-4,6-dihydro-5*H*-thieno[2,3-c]pyrrol-2-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4,4,6,6-tetramethyl-4,6-dihydro-5*H*-thieno[2,3-c]pyrrol-2-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid isopropylamide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid isopropylamide;

1-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methyl)1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl-methyl-sulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

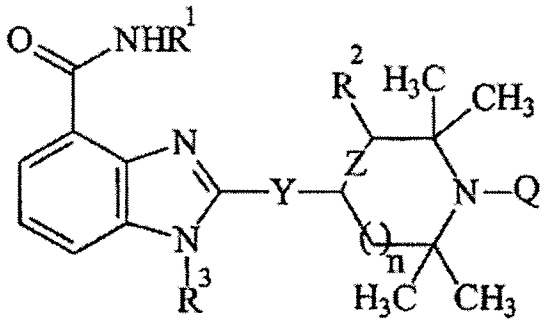
2-(1-oxyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pirydin-4-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide; and

2-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide.

17. (Previously Presented) The compound of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof according to claim 14, wherein the salt is formed with inorganic or organic acids.

18. (Previously Presented) The compound of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof according to claim 14, wherein said salt is an oxalate, a hydrochloride, a hydrobromide, a sulphate, a phosphate, a phosphite, a borate, a lactate, an ascorbate, an acetate, a fumarate, a formiate, a tosylate, a tartarate, a maleate, a citrate, a gluconate, or a besylate.

19. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease which can be favorably influenced by PARP inhibition and/or scavenging oxidative stress, comprising an effective dose of a compound of the formula



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof, wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, or $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxy;

R^2 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, carboxyl, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, aryl, or hetero-aryl;

R^3 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, aryl-methylene, or aryl;

Y is a valency bond, a straight or branched chain $C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, a carbonyl-amino-$C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, or a $-S-(CH_2)_m-$ group;

n represents zero or the integer 1;

m represents the integer 1, 2, or 3;

Q represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, or the oxygen radical ($O^{\cdot}$), or together with the N atom of the adjacent ring forms a +N=O (oxoimmonium) group;

Z represents a single or double bond; and

wherein any or all alkene groups may be spaced by an arylene group.

20. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein

one or more of the aryl substituents are phenyl;

the hetero-aryl substituent is piperidine, pyrrole, or pyrrolidine; and/or

one or more of the arylene groups are 6 or 12 membered arylene.

21. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

4-(4-carbamoyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl)-1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-pyrrolidine 3-carboxylic acid methyl ester radical;

4-(4-carbamoyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl)- 2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-pyrrolidine-3-carboxylic acid methyl ester;

2-(4-bromo-l-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4-bromo-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-4-phenyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H* pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4-phenyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1,2,2,5,5-pentamethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-acetyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-methoxy-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(dibenzofuran-4-yl)-1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(dibenzofuran-4-yl)-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

(1-hydroxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-l,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-l,2,3, 6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[3-methoxy-4-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-[3-methoxy-4-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methoxy)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(5-oxyl-4,4,6,6-tetramethyl-4,6-dihydro-5*H*-thieno[2,3-c]pyrrol-2-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(4,4,6,6-tetramethyl-4,6-dihydro-5*H*-thieno[2,3-c]pyrrol-2-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid isopropylamide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid isopropylamide;

1-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl-methyl)1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

1-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide radical;

2-(2,2,5,5-tetramethyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl-methyl-sulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(1-oxyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pirydin-4-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide; and

2-(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl-methylsulphanyl)-1H-benzimidazole 4-carboxylic acid amide.

22. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein the salt is formed with inorganic or organic acids.

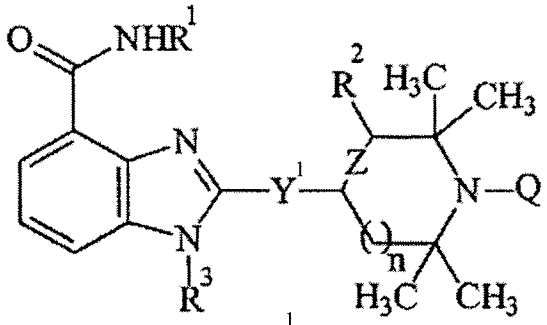
23. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein said salt is an oxalate, a hydrochloride, a hydrobromide, a sulphate, a phosphate, a phosphite, a borate, a lactate, an ascorbate, an acetate, a fumarate, a formiate, a tosylate, a tartarate, a maleate, a citrate, a gluconate, or a besylate.

24. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of ischemia/reperfusion, inflammation, potentiation of cancer therapies, and combinations thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition is formulated for a route of administration selected from the group consisting of oral, transdermal, parenteral, intramuscular, and intravenous.

26. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein said composition is formulated as a tablet, injection, solution, suppository, patch, or suspension.

27. (Previously Presented) A method for the preparation of a compound of the formula



(I)[1]

or a pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof, wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, or $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxy;

R^2 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, carboxyl, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, aryl, or hetero-aryl;

R^3 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, aryl-methylene, or aryl;

Y^1 is a valency bond, a straight or branched $C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, or a carbonyl-amino-$C_{(1-4)}$ alkene;

n represents zero or the integer 1;

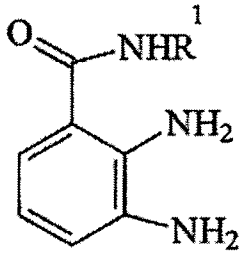
Q represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, or the oxygen radical (O·), or together with the N atom of the adjacent ring forms a +N=O (oxoimmonium) group;

Z represents a single or double bond; and

wherein any or all alkene groups may be spaced by an arylene group,

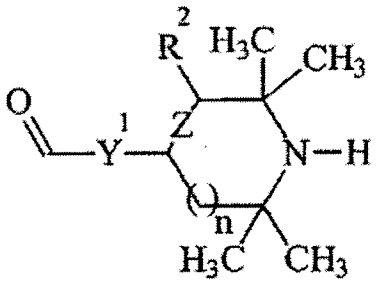
comprising:

reacting a carboxamide of the formula



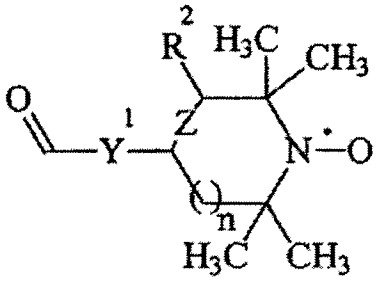
(IV)

wherein R^1 has the meaning stated above, with a heterocyclic derivative of the formula



(V)

or



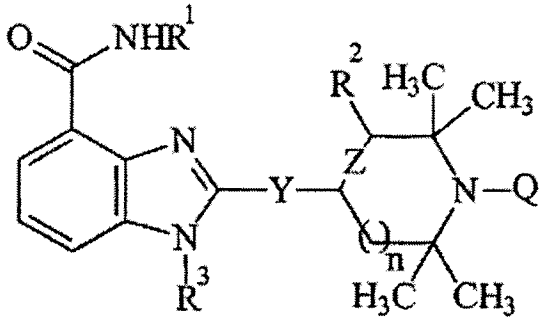
(VI)

wherein R^2, Y^1, Z, and n have the meanings stated above.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said salt is an oxalate, a hydrochloride, a hydrobromide, a sulphate, a phosphate, a phosphite, a borate, a lactate, an ascorbate, an acetate, a fumarate, a formiate, a tosylate, a tartarate, a maleate, a citrate, a gluconate, or a besylate.

Claims 29-32 (Canceled).

33. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a disease that is based on PARP activation and/or are caused by Reactive Oxidative Species (ROS) and Reactive Nitrogen Species (RNS), comprising administering an effective dose of at least one compound of the formula



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable or technically applicable salt thereof, wherein

R^1 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, or $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxy;

R^2 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, carboxyl, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, aryl, or hetero-aryl;

R^3 represents hydrogen, $C_{(1-4)}$ alkyl, aryl-methylene, or aryl;

Y is a valency bond, a straight or branched chain $C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, a carbonyl-amino-$C_{(1-4)}$ alkene, or a $-S-(CH_2)_m-$ group;

n represents zero or the integer 1;

m represents the integer 1, 2, or 3;

Q represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, or the oxygen radical ($O^{\cdot}$), or together with the N atom of the adjacent ring forms a +N=O (oxoimmonium) group;

Z represents a single or double bond; and

wherein any or all alkene groups may be spaced by an arylene group,

in the form of a dosage form comprising said effective dose.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of ischemia/reperfusion, inflammation, unfavorable reaction in the course of radiotherapy or chemotherapy, and combinations thereof.